

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : William H. Shepard et al                      Art Unit : 1794  
Serial No. : 10/524,881                                      Examiner : Lynda Salvatore  
Filed : October 19, 2005                                      Conf. No. : 5888  
Title : FLEXIBLE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION LAMINATES WITH FASTENERS  
(AS AMENDED)

**DECLARATION OF WILLIAM H. SHEPARD UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132**

I, William H. Shepard, of 7 Highland Drive, Amherst, New Hampshire, declare that the following are true:

1. I hold a Bachelors Degree in Applied Physics from Marietta College. The curriculum included general study of the properties of material.

2. I have been an employee of Velcro Group Corporation, Manchester, New Hampshire, an affiliate of the assignee of the subject patent application, for the past twelve years. I am presently Product Design Manager: Industrial and Construction Markets. Previously I held the positions of Manager, Packaging Development and Packaging Engineer for Velcro Group Corporation, in which I had responsibility of packaging of products sold by Velcro USA, and for developing disposable hook and loop closures products for the packaging industry.

3. Previous to my employment by Velcro Group Corporation, I was employed for 12 years by Nashua Corporation, Nashua, New Hampshire, manufacturer of printing products, including paper and other printable products, and dry and liquid toner for electrostatic printing, as well as computer products. I held various positions with Nashua Corporation relating to packaging for products sold by that company, including posts as Staff Engineer, Project Engineer and Engineering Group Leader for computer products division, packaging engineer for dry toner division and Corporate Packaging Engineer, all divisions. In my various roles at Nashua Corporation, I became widely knowledgeable about paper and lamination techniques.

4. I am named as an inventor, jointly with George Provost, in the present application, U.S. Serial No. 10/524,881.

5. Attached to this Declaration as Attachments 1 and 2 are true and correct examples of a flexible construction building laminate material, produced in accordance with the disclosure in the Application.

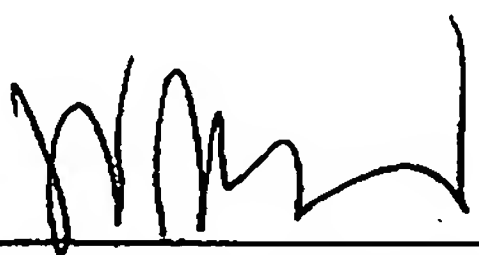
6. The attached specimens include "a fastening side comprising a sheet-form fastener component with hook-engageable loops defined by a knit or non-woven web material having a basis weight of less than about 4 ounces per square yard, and an opposite side formed by a sheet of paper adhesively laminated to the fastener component, the paper significantly stiffening the web material against stretching in a plane of the laminate, such that the laminate has a Gurley stiffness of more than 500 milligrams, while the paper is of such flexibility that it may be wound freely about a roll of less than one inch radius, such that the laminate remains sufficiently flexible to be rolled up for storage and transport."

7. The attached specimens were produced by laminating a roughly 2.5 ounce per square yard loop material to 40 pound Kraft paper.

8. Attention is drawn to the in plane stiffness and the out of plane flexibility of the laminate samples.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are true; and further these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signed at Manchester, New Hampshire this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2008.

  
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William H. Shepard